

SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK

<http://mfrc.calib.com/snn>

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Community and Family Policy), is very proud to announce a website for military families with special medical and special education needs. The *Special Needs Network (SNN)* empowers families and the professionals who work with them with information that will help them decide on issues of importance to their family's special needs. It is a relocation tool beyond the normal relocation information (housing, finances, employment, etc...)

The SNN is organized in modules that provide information and links on:

- Assignment Coordination
- Medical
- Education
- Community Support
- Federal Programs
- Training and Advocacy Organizations
- Relocation
- Resources

The *SNN Members Network* provides families a mechanism for communicating with each other to get information that is not available at this site (or perhaps at any site). We are encouraging families to use the *Members Network* as a vehicle to establish Tour Guides (families helping other families with similar special needs who are moving to their location). The Members Network is completely confidential, while allowing members to contact each other via email, if both parties choose to do so.

What's New will highlight information that is new to the site or time-sensitive (e.g., publication of the Department of Education proposed regulations on special education). SNN users will have the opportunity to subscribe to an email alert system that will alert them when new information is posted.

Employment Opportunities will provide information on employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and on organizations that can help with employment. DoD programs providing services to children with disabilities will also list job vacancies in this location.

Highlights of the SNN. The SNN provides access to:

- ❖ Federal disability laws
- ❖ All DoD and Military Department Regulations concerning assignment coordination (the exceptional family member program (EFMP), special education, and early intervention services.
- ❖ Email addresses for EFMP coordinators/managers, DoDEA special education coordinators, state directors of special education, and more.
- ❖ DoD publications such as the *DoD Guide to Special Education Services OCONUS*
- ❖ *TRICARE and IDEA Part C: A Guide to Services* published by the TRICARE Management Activity and the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council to answer questions about what the military health care system will pay for Part C (early intervention services) in the United States.
- ❖ *Children with Special Needs: A Navy Parent Handbook* published by the Navy and developed by the Parent Education Advocacy Training Center is an excellent reference for all military families with children who are developmentally delayed or who have a disability.

Fort Sill Point of Contact: *Mrs. Nichole Haycock, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Coordinator*

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